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BRIEF MENTION

OLD TESTAMENT

RYLE, H. E. *The Book of Genesis. In the Revised Version, with Introduction and Notes.* ["The Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges."] New York: Putnam, 1914. \$1.10.

The "Cambridge Bible" has long lacked its opening book. That need is now supplied. There is no lack of good commentaries on Genesis for all classes of readers. The class to which this appeals is already provided for by Driver, Wade, Bennett, and Mitchell. But doubtless this volume, being in this famous series and its author being a well-known leader in the church, will find many readers whom its predecessors have not touched. The work is well done. It makes no contribution to existing scholarship; but that is not the purpose of the series. Its author is well informed as to the results of the best scholarship and has used them fully in his interpretation. The standpoint is that of historical criticism, but the application of critical methods is cautious and moderate. The volume is thus admirably suited to the needs of the average man. The literary sources of the text are indicated by the appropriate symbols in the margin. Half a dozen half-tones and two maps add to the interest and attractiveness of the book. An appendix gives illustrative materials from Babylonian and Egyptian records. The introduction is clear and sufficiently full, without becoming wearisome. The comments are really helpful in the interpretation of the text.

Hammurabi's date is now known to have been 2123 to 2081 B.C., i.e., about a hundred years later than the dates accepted by Ryle. The old statement that the name "Jehovah" was first so pronounced by Petrus Galatinus in 1518 B.C. is reiterated. But George F. Moore, in the *American Journal of Theology*, Vol. XII, pp. 34 ff., showed clearly that this pronunciation was in vogue before the days of Petrus Galatinus, since the latter discusses the subject in such a way as to show that he is not introducing a new pronunciation but defending an old one. The transliteration of Hebrew words is of little value in this type of a book and, if done at all, should be done with careful consistency. The excavator at Susa was de Morgan (p. 167). The book as a whole is notably free from errors.

J. M. P. S.

DUHM, B. *Das Buch Jesaia übersetzt und erklärt.* Dritte, verbesserte und vermehrte Auflage. [Handkommentar zum Alten Testament.] Göttingen: Vandenhoeck und Ruprecht, 1914. xxiv+459 pages. M. 10.

Twenty-two years after its original issue this famous commentary reaches its third edition. Its author tells us that "no page and often no sentence has remained unchanged." Along with this change in subject-matter goes a change from roman type to German. This is a part of the general movement in Germany to maintain the superiority of all things German; but the German type is harder upon the eyes. The change in content is not vital; indeed, there is no single change of first-rate significance. For example, in the entire Introduction to the commentary the more important changes are but three in number and they are of but minor significance at that. On p. xv, the new edition is less certain than its predecessor as to the date at which chaps. 40-66 were welded into a unit. On p. xvii, 29:56-7 is not assigned to 711 B.C., as it was in the former edition. Lastly, on p. xix, 14:22 f. is not credited to a contemporary of Deutero-Isaiah, as in the second edition. The changes are, for